AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as set forth in the following listing. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims for the present application:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method of sharing an object in a portal framework, the method comprising the steps of:

storing a reference to the object in a first repository in the portal framework, wherein the first repository is associated with or available to a first site on the portal framework, wherein the object is an invokable a software object used at a first site residing on a machine in the portal framework, and wherein the reference to the object contains information necessary to locate and invoke for accessing the object; and

performing a first operation to store a duplicate of the reference to the object in a second repository associated with the or available to a second site on the portal framework;

making wherein, via the duplicate of the reference stored in the second repository, the object becomes available to the second site for reuse by the second site on the portal framework; and

wherein the first operation is in accordance with a first privilege granted as defined by a permission to share the object with the second site.

2.-3.   (Cancelled).

4.   (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of performing a third second operation to remove unshare the object from with the second site by removing, wherein the second operation removes the duplicate of the reference of the object from the second repository.

5.   (Cancelled).

6.   (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of providing access to the duplicate of the reference of the object in the second repository.

7.   (Original) The method according to claim 6, wherein the step of providing access is in accordance with a second privilege granted as defined by a permission for the second repository.

8.   (Original) The method according to claim 7, further comprising the step of performing a second operation to store a second duplicate of the reference to the object in a third repository.

9.   (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, further comprising the step of performing a third operation to add the object to the second site.

10.   (Original) The method according to claim 9, further comprising the step of performing a fourth operation to remove the duplicate of the reference of the object from the second repository.

11.   (Original) The method according to claim 10, wherein the fourth operation further comprises the step of removing the object from the second site.

12.   (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the first operation further comprises the step of storing references to each child object of the object in the second repository.

13.   (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the first operation further comprises the step of excluding references to at least one child object of the object in the second repository.

14. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for sharing an object in a portal framework, the computer program product comprising:

at least one non-transitory computer readable medium; and

computer program instructions, recorded on the at least one non-transitory computer readable medium, executable by a processor, for performing the steps of:

storing a reference to the object in a first repository in the portal framework, wherein the first repository is associated with or available to a first site on the portal framework, wherein the object is an invokable a software object used at a first site residing on a machine in the portal framework, and wherein the reference to the object contains information necessary to locate and invoke for accessing the object; and

performing a first operation to store a duplicate of the reference to the object in a second repository associated with or available to a second site on the portal framework;

making wherein, via the duplicate of the reference stored in the second repository, the object becomes available to the second site for reuse by the second site on the portal framework; and

wherein the first operation is in accordance with a first privilege granted as defined by a permission to share the object with the second site.

15.-16. (Cancelled).

17. (Currently Amended) The computer program product according to claim 14, further comprising computer program instructions for performing the step of performing a third second operation to remove unshare the object from with the second site by removing, wherein the second operation removes the duplicate of the reference of the object from the second repository.

18. (Cancelled).

19. (Previously Presented) The computer program product according to claim 14, further comprising computer program instructions for performing the step of providing access to the duplicate of the reference of the object in the second repository.

20.   (Original) The computer program product according to claim 19, wherein the step of providing access is in accordance with a second privilege granted as defined by a permission for the second repository.

21.   (Original) The computer program product according to claim 20, further comprising computer program instructions for performing the step of performing a second operation to store a second duplicate of the reference to the object in a third repository

22.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product according to claim 21, further comprising computer program instructions for performing the step of performing a third operation to add the object to the second site.

23.   (Original) The computer program product according to claim 22, further comprising computer program instructions for performing the step of performing a fourth operation to remove the duplicate of reference of the object from the second repository.

24.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product according to claim 23, wherein the fourth operation further comprising the step of removing the object from the second site.

25.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product according to claim 14, wherein the first operation further comprises the step of storing references to each child object of the object in the second repository.

26.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product according to claim 14, wherein the first operation further comprises the step of excluding references to at least one child object of the object in the second repository.

27.   (Currently Amended) A system for sharing an object in a portal framework, the system comprising:

a first site on the portal framework, wherein the first site is operable to use the object, wherein the object resides on a machine in the portal framework;

a first repository associated with [[a]] or available to the first site operable to, wherein the first repository stores a reference to the object available to the first site, wherein the object is an invokable software object and the reference to the object contains information necessary to locate and invoke for accessing the object;

a second site on the portal framework; and

a second repository associated with or available to the second site, wherein the second repository is operable to store a duplicate of the reference to the object in response to a first operation;

wherein, via the duplicate of the reference stored in the second repository, the object becomes available to the second site for reuse by the second site on the portal framework; and

wherein the first operation is in accordance with a first privilege granted as defined by a permission to share the object with the second site.

28.-29. (Cancelled).

30.   (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 27, wherein the duplicate of the reference of the object is removed from the second repository in response to a third operation.

31.   (Original) The system according to claim 30, wherein the object is removed from the second site in response to the third operation.

32.   (Original) The system according to claim 27, wherein access to the duplicate of the reference of the object in the second repository is provided.

33.   (Original) The system according to claim 32, wherein access is provided in accordance with a second privilege granted as defined by a permission for the second repository.

34.   (Original) The system according to claim 33, further comprising a third repository operable to store a second duplicate of the reference to the object in response to a second

operation.

35.   (Cancelled).

36.   (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 27, wherein the second reference of the object is removed from the second repository in response to a fourth operation.

37.   (Original) The system according to claim 36, wherein the object is removed from the second site in response to the fourth operation.

38.   (Currently amended) The system according to claim [[28]] 27, wherein the second repository is operable to store references to each child object of the object in response to the first operation.

39.   (Currently amended) The system according to claim [[28]] 27, wherein the second repository is operable to exclude storage of at least one child object of the object in the second repository in response to the first operation.

40.   (Currently Amended) A method of sharing an object in a portal framework comprising:

storing a reference to [[an]]the object available to a first site in a first site repository in the portal framework, wherein the first site repository is associated with a first site on the portal framework, wherein the object is an invokable a software object residing on a machine in the portal framework, and wherein the reference to the object contains information necessary to locate and invoke for accessing the object;

storing a first copy of the reference to the object in a second site repository or a shared repository in the portal framework, wherein the second site repository is associated with a second site on the portal framework, and wherein the shared repository is available to the second site;

making wherein, via the first copy of the reference stored in the second site repository or the shared repository, the object becomes directly or indirectly available to the second site for reuse by the second site on the portal framework;

wherein the first repository and the second repository comprise portions of a single shared repository and

adding the object to the second site utilizing the first copy of the reference stored in the second site repository or the shared repository;

wherein the second site repository is associated with [[a]]the first site based on a first set of privileges.

41.   (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 40, further comprising storing a second copy of the reference to the object in a third site repository in the portal framework, wherein the third site repository is associated with the second site based on a second set of privileges.

42.   (Currently Amended) The method of Claim [[42]]40, wherein the third repository comprises another portion object is a compound object having child objects and wherein the step of storing the first copy of the reference further comprises storing at least one reference to at least one of the child objects in the second site repository or the single shared repository in the portal framework.

43.   (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 40, wherein the object referenced by the reference to the object is not copied to the second site repository.

44.   (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 40, further comprising storing the object referenced by the reference to the object in a database remote from the ~~single~~ shared repository.